



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

Michael O. Leavitt
Governor

Kathleen Clarke
Executive Director

Lowell P. Braxton
Division Director

1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210

PO Box 145801

Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

801-538-5340

801-359-3940 (Fax)

801-538-7223 (TDD)

June 22, 1999

Denise Dragoo, Resident Agent
Horizon Mining, LLC
c/o Snell & Wilmer
111 East Broadway, Suite 900
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111

Re: Results from 6/4/99 Meeting, Horizon Mining, LLC, Horizon Mine, ACT/007/020, Folder #3, Carbon County, Utah

Dear Ms. Dragoo:

A meeting was held between the Division and Horizon representatives on June 4, 1999. In the meeting an application was presented for permitting a lease area adjacent to the existing permit. During the meeting it was determined that some information relative to permitting was not completed, and the application was returned for further work. Concerns and issues known to be pertinent to permitting the new lease area, and issues for permitting in general, are presented in this document to guide the applicant in completing the permit application that will meet regulatory needs. Some of these issues were identified in the Midterm Review and Division Order recently issued to the permittee. These issues are being summarized and re-iterated to aid in completing the application. The plan should be structured to be clear and accurate and should be formatted according to the State of Utah Sate R645 Coal Mining Rules. Thank you for considering these issues in the permitting process.

Hydrologic Baseline Information Needed to Permit The Proposed Leases

(This list is not complete, but identifies the major issues needing to be addressed)

- Determine the recharge source for the water intercepted in the mine, from first interception through the present time, which is discharged from the mine workings. This may require chemical, physical and isotopic analyses and should identify seasonal variation.
- Describe the groundwater characteristics in the area adjacent to the existing permit area, north of Beaver Creek. In earlier meetings with Horizon representatives, the Division identified preferred locations for water monitoring wells. Currently no wells are drilled within the Blackhawk lithologic formation where mining is conducted. These wells should at a minimum explore for water within above and below the seam to be mined, and if water is present the wells should be completed in that lithologic formation. In a memorandum dated March 5, 1998 the Division responded to a citizens complaint. In that document the Division stated the following locations should be provided with wells for baseline information prior to future mining; a) at least three water monitoring wells located along the northeastern side within the Fish Creek Graben Zone northwest of Beaver Creek, one of those three would be located northwest of Jump Creek, b) another three need to be located in the Jump Creek Graben north west of Beaver Creek, of which one should be located northwest of Jump Creek.

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- The Beaver Creek stream inventory needs to be conducted again. Numerous changes to the stream system occurred from recent logging activities. The survey needs to be conducted to extend across any new permit boundary that mines underneath Beaver Creek. The survey may also need to extend beyond previously mined regions to assist in determining background information over previously mined adjacent areas having a potential to interact with current and proposed mining.
- Approval needs to be granted by the Division of Environmental Quality for the minewater discharge. The original application for discharge 002 was filed on December 1997 and is not currently approved.
- An updated PHC.
- Consult with surface land owners, who are concerned about impacts within the 1288 acre lease, and identify and address concerns regarding monitoring for potential impacts from mining subsidence, and impacts to water quantity and quality from mining.
- The CHIA (Cumulative Hydrologic Impact Assessment) will need to be completed by the Division. Information must be adequate to complete this process.

Hydrologic Wildlife and Vegetation Information Needed to Permit The Proposed Leases

(This list is not complete, but identifies the major issues needing to be addressed)

- Vegetation map for permit area.
- Raptor Survey.

Technical Concerns include but are not limited to the following:

- Providing adequate protection for Jewkes Creek in relation to; the potential for windblown fines, the confining nature of the available coal storage area.
- Disturbed area maps and markers need to delineate the existing disturbed area.
- Clearly identify the existing disturbed area buffer zone on a map and in the field.
- Show snow storage location and describe storage and handling procedures. The area for snow storage can not overlap coal and coal waste storage locations.
- Seeded disturbed areas and revegetated riparian areas need to be fenced for protection from livestock.
- Appendix 8-1, Plate A, needs to show and delineate the main Topsoil Stockpile.
- Appendix 8-1, Topsoil Stockpile Table, shows surveyed quantity of soil in the main Topsoil Stockpile as 10,993 cubic yards. The Mine Reclamation Plan (MRP) needs to be updated showing


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past surveys so that the Division can verify the surveyed quantity of Topsoil in the pile. The surveyed pile Information, both current and original, should include, but not be limited to, the following:

- (1) Surveyed Pile specifics, dimensions
 - (2) Pile illustration showing surveyed pile configuration, and
 - (3) Pile cross sections.
- Appendix 8-1, Plate A, shows the temporary Riparian Topsoil stockpile on Area "E". On the ground, the temporary Riparian Topsoil stockpile has been relocated from Area "E" to the main Topsoil Stockpile. Plate A needs to be updated to show the current location of the Riparian Topsoil stockpile.
 - Appendix 8-1, Plate B, shows areas that will require Topsoil during reclamation. On the ground, the northern temporary fan portal area, the temporary fan portal access road, and the northern refuse slope adjacent and above the main topsoil stockpile have been reclaimed. The following are needed:
 - (1) Update the all relevant MRP text, tables and maps, including Appendix 8-1.
 - (2) Dates that reclamation took place and who performed the reclamation.
 - (3) Identify the soil source, location, volumes and characterization of the soil resource used for reclamation.

If you have any questions, please call.

Sincerely,



Daron R. Haddock
Permit Supervisor

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cc: Mike Malmquist, Esq.
Vicky Miller, EarthFax Engineering
Mary Ann Wright, DOGM
Bill Malencik, DOGM
Sharon Falvey, DOGM
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